

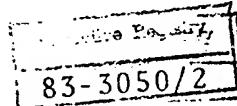
**EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT****Routing Slip**

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Remarks:

*[Signature]*  
 Executive Secretary  
 7/12/83  
 Date

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90863NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

July 11, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR THOMAS CORMACK  
Executive Secretary  
Central Intelligence Agency

SUBJECT: NSDD-97 Steering Group (U)

Pursuant to Mr. McMahon's conversation with Robert Helm of the NSC staff, this is to confirm the relationship of government agencies with the NSDD-97 Steering Group. (U)

The National Communications System (NCS), of which the CIA is a principal member, will function as the interagency forum where national security telecommunication initiatives in support of NSDD-97 are developed. To the extent feasible, the NCS membership will also address implementation and funding issues. (C)

NCS proposed initiatives and implementation recommendations will be forwarded to the Steering Group for consideration. The Steering Group will address and approve final implementation and funding plans or, as required, refer issues to the President for decision. (C)

Agencies will be invited to participate in Steering Group meetings to discuss implementation and funding for national security telecommunication initiatives directly related to their mission and responsibilities. Agencies may also request to participate in or observe Steering Group meetings at which issues they feel bear upon their mission and responsibilities will be discussed. (C)

This procedure is specifically designed to ensure that all agencies will be represented at NSDD-97 Steering Group meetings where implementation and funding of national security telecommunication issues directly related to their missions and budgets are discussed. (C)

*Robert M. Kimmitt*  
Robert M. Kimmitt  
Executive Secretary

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**EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT.****Routing Slip**

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Executive Secretary  
7/11/85  
Date

Central Registry  
83-3050/1

11 July 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: NSDD-97 Steering Group

1. As a result of my request to Judge Clark and concerns expressed over the absence of CIA presence on the NSDD-97 Steering Group, Clark had Bob Helm, NSC, contact me on 8 July.

2. Helm assured me that the Steering Group would have member organizations of the National Communications Service in attendance whenever such matters involving their programs or their responsibility were discussed. In other words, if intelligence flow or diplomatic communications were to be discussed then CIA would be invited. I indicated that was not clear in any of the paperwork I had seen. He assured me that that indeed was the intent and he guaranteed CIA would be invited on any issue that would impact on us.

John N. McMahon  
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

STAT

cc DDA  
D/Office of Communications

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83-3050/1

20 June 1983

Topic for DCI/DDCI Meeting with Judge Clark

1. National Security Decision Directive-97 (NSDD-97), National Security Telecommunications Policy, was approved and signed by the President on 13 June. NSDD-97 not only replaces Presidential Directive 53, but it also deals with the totality of telecommunications as it affects national security.

2. In April we submitted a number of modifications to the NSDD-97 draft. Some of the modifications were incorporated in the final document. However, the most critical recommendation submitted is not contained in the final document--in view of the pervasive effect which NSDD-97 has on the Intelligence Community

[redacted] we urged that the DCI be permitted to designate a representative to serve on the NSDD-97 Steering Group. The NSDD-97 Steering Group currently consists of the Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy, the Executive Agent of the National Communications System, the Associate Director of OMB for National Security and International Affairs, and it is chaired by the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs or his representative.

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3. Because of the significance of NSDD-97 as it concerns the Intelligence Community, [redacted] we again request that the DCI/DDCI urge that Judge Clark permit them to appoint a representative to the NSDD-97 Steering Group.

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~~All portions are classified CONFIDENTIAL~~

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